



Green Energy Fund Relief Program June 2010

Summary

Green Energy Program (GEP) applicants who have invested in a renewable energy system (e.g., solar photovoltaic or geothermal) and whose projects have been approved for a rebate, can receive their rebate faster using funds from the federal “Recovery Act” if they undertake some basic energy efficiency improvements. To qualify for this expedited rebate, GEP applicants must have an energy audit performed by a certified auditor, and undertake some efficiency improvement recommended in the audit with a value of at least \$500. To help applicants take advantage of this opportunity for energy savings and expedited rebates, the state will rebate half the cost of the energy efficiency improvements (\$250 maximum match of the minimum retrofit investment) and will rebate half the costs of the energy audit (up to a maximum rebate of \$250).

How to Apply for an Expedited GEP Rebate Using *Recovery Act* Funding

If you decide to participate in this accelerated rebate option you must meet two conditions for which the state will provide a rebate:

- (1) Contact a certified Building Performance Institute (BPI) energy auditor from the attached list, and have them conduct a full energy audit of your home. Submit to the Delaware Energy Office (a) a copy of the resulting audit report from the certified BPI auditor including specific energy efficiency investment recommendations, and (b) copy of the paid invoice for the energy audit; and
- (2) Install energy efficiency improvements identified in the audit report with a value of at least \$500.00. These improvements can be installed yourself or by a contractor. You must submit either (a) a paid invoice detailing the energy efficiency retrofits included in the recommendations of the energy audit, if you hire a contractor, or, (b) if you install the improvements yourself, you must submit receipts for the materials and a letter certifying the improvements made and that you performed the retrofits yourself.

The state will rebate half of the cost of your energy audit, up to a \$250 rebate, and a similar rebate offer (up to \$250) for the energy efficiency retrofits (e.g., air sealing, insulation, set-back thermostats, etc.). To assist you, we have provided: Green Energy Fund Relief Program Rules, Green Energy Fund Relief Program – Recipient Checklist and a list of BPI Certified Installers to complete program requirements. Please remember, if you opt to skip this audit and energy efficiency investment, we will continue to hold your name in the existing queue, and your payment will be processed as non-Recovery Act funding becomes available.

For more information, see www.energy.dnrec.delaware.gov/
Or contact Scott Lynch at 302-735-3480 or scott.lynch@state.de.us

Green Energy Fund Relief Program Rules

Conditions for receiving ARRA funding for Green Energy Program Grant:

1. Grant recipients must complete and submit all required documents to the Delaware Energy Office by October 1, 2010 to confirm program participation.
2. Recipient must contact a BPI certified energy auditor and complete energy audit of their home.
3. Upon completion of energy audit, homeowner must complete at least \$500 of recommended energy efficiency upgrades or retrofits.
4. Customer must provide the Energy Office with the Delaware GEF Relief Program Jobs Reporting Worksheet completed and signed by representatives for the customer's original GEP contractor, energy efficiency auditor, and the energy efficiency retrofit installer.

Program Benefits:

1. Program will pay for 50 percent of energy audit costs, up to \$250 rebate.
2. Program will pay for 50 percent of qualifying energy efficiency upgrades and retrofits, up to \$250.
3. Upon completion of energy audit and required upgrades or retrofits, grants recipients will receive full amount of grant owed through the Green Energy Program from special funds made available by ARRA. Grant recipients will also receive payment for the energy audit and energy efficiency upgrade rebates for which they qualify.

Energy Audit Requirements

1. Energy auditor must be on list of BPI Certified auditors provided by the Delaware Energy Office. If the grant recipient wishes to use an auditor not on the approved list, a copy of the auditor's BPI certification must be submitted to the Energy Office.
2. Prior home energy audits completed by BPI certified auditors between June 1, 2009 and June 1, 2010 will be accepted for participation in this program and a new energy audit will not be required. Grant recipient must be able to provide:
 - a. The name of auditor,
 - b. Copy of auditor's BPI certification
 - c. An invoice for the audit showing payment in full,
 - d. A copy of the itemized auditor's full report detailing upgrade and retrofit recommendations.
 - e. A copy of the full audit report showing the upgrade and retrofit recommendations that also details the estimated energy savings for each recommendation in energy units (e.g. kWh, lbs of fuel, therms, or Btus saved) not just dollar values.
3. Any qualifying audits prior to June 1, 2010 will not be eligible for the \$250 audit rebate.
4. For audits completed after June 1, 2010 recipients must provide copies of the following documents:
 - a. A copy of the full audit report showing the upgrade and retrofit recommendations that also details the estimated energy savings for each recommendation in energy units (e.g. kWh, lbs of fuel, therms, or Btus saved) not just dollar values.
 - b. A copy of itemized energy audit invoice showing payment.
5. Audits completed after June 1, 2010 qualify for a rebate of 50 percent of the full audit cost, up to a \$250 rebate.
6. The home energy audit must be completed at the same property where the project receiving the Green Energy Fund Grant was installed.
7. Energy Efficiency Auditor must complete and sign Section 2 of the Delaware GEF Relief Program Jobs Reporting Worksheet.

8. All energy audits are subject to independent audit review by the Delaware Energy Office. All grant recipients submitting energy audits reporting properties with no possible energy retrofit or upgrade recommendations will be inspected by an auditor from the Delaware Energy Office. Audit reports showing no possible energy efficiency improvements with a return on investment of less than 10 years must:
 - a. Detail why there were no possible improvements in the house,
 - b. Detail how the customer is meeting and exceeding the current highest Delaware energy efficiency code standards.
9. The energy efficiency grants will only be paid based on expenditures made by the customer. Any expenditure made by a contractor but not charged to the customer will not be eligible for an efficiency grant reimbursement.

Energy Efficiency Retrofit and Upgrade Requirements

1. Homeowner must make at least a \$500 investment in energy efficiency retrofits or upgrades from energy audit recommendations, 50 percent of qualifying retrofit or upgrade cost will be paid by ARRA rebates, up to \$250.
2. To receive ARRA retrofit or upgrade rebates, homeowner must complete \$500 of energy efficiency upgrades from the following list of items, many of which are also eligible for the Energy Star Federal Tax Credit for Consumer Energy Efficiency:
 - a. Air sealing
 - b. Programmable thermostats
 - c. Motion or daylight sensitive light switches
 - d. Windows and doors
 - e. Insulation
 - f. Roofs
 - g. HVAC: Central Air Conditioners, Air Source Heat Pumps, Furnaces and Boilers
3. Upgrades and retrofits to renewable energy systems do not qualify.
4. Upgrades and retrofits to home appliances do not qualify.
5. Upgrades and retrofits must be chosen from improvements recommended by the energy audit as found eligible for this program among the items listed above (a. through g.).
6. Energy efficiency retrofits and upgrades completed by homeowner completed prior to June 1, 2010 do not satisfy program requirements.
7. Homeowner must provide detailed invoices and/or receipts for eligible energy efficiency retrofits included in the energy audit recommendations totaling at least \$500. At minimum, the invoices must state the cost of each retrofit. Incomplete or not detailed invoices will be declined.
8. Customer's Energy Efficiency Improvement Installer must complete and sign Section 3 of the Delaware GEF Relief Program Jobs Reporting Worksheet. If self-installed, the customer must complete Section 3 his or herself, estimating hours worked on installation.
9. The energy efficiency upgrades or retrofits must be completed at the same property where the project receiving the Green Energy Fund Grant was installed.
10. If homeowner installs the energy efficiency improvements his or herself, receipts for the materials and a letter stating who performed the retrofits and certifying the improvements that were made must be provided. No labor costs will be allowed in the calculation of rebates for self installations of retrofits or upgrades. Any claimed energy efficiency retrofit investments may be subject to inspections by the DEO.
11. Only receipts that are received by the Energy Office will be used to calculate the retrofit rebate and count towards the minimum \$500 energy efficiency investment.

- Please provide all audit and retrofit documents to the Delaware Energy Office by October 1, 2010 to confirmation of participation from in this program. Those applicants who do not provide complete documentation by October 1, 2010 will maintain their position in the Green Energy Program payment queue pending funds but may not be eligible for special expedited funding through Recovery Act funding via the Green Energy Fund Relief Program. Non-participation will not adversely affect the eventual payment of the grant through Green Energy Program.